SUBJECTS.

have to answer a number of civil suits. In many cases, the *karanma* servants would have other renumeration in the temple and the properties would not be seen in the Sirkar accounts as specifically attached to the service concerned. The resumption should therefore be resorted to only in those clear cases in which the *anubhogam* land was really allowed for the service and that fact and the nature of the service could be substantiated by the Sirkar accounts.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

133. The desirability of giving over to the people the management of the Devaswoms and Charitable Institutions.

Mr. K. M. Sivathanu Pillai (Member, Thovala taluk) observed that, when in the previons sessions the representation was made to entrust the people with the management of their religious and charitable institutions, the reply received was that the matter would be considered in connection with the Devaswom reorganisation. Now that the reorgnisation was over, the G. O. stated that the question would be considered after the Village Panchayats were organised and tried. He thought that there was no sort of connection between the Devaswoms and the Village Panchayats. For the management of the Devaswoms, Hindu members were essentially required, but a Village Panchayat need not be restricted to them.

Dewan.—It is the duty of the Government to proceed cautiously. The idea is that the Village Panchayat Courts proposed to be started will give an opportunity to the Government to see how the people act. With that test, the Government will be in a position to know if the people would be fit to manage the Devaswoms properly.

The Member replied that he failed to see the necessity for further testing the capacity of the people. He requested that a Committee should be appointed in the case of the Major Devaswoms and the management entrusted to that Committee, the Government retaining a supervision over the work of the Committee. In the case of the Minor Devaswoms, a Council might be appointed and the Devaswoms left to their absolute control. By effectively regulating the expenditure, the Council would find it possible to enforce the proper conduct of the *pujas* and also leave some savings with which petty Maramat works could be done. He prayed for early action being taken in the matter.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

IX.—Miscellaneous.

134. The extension of the proposed Quilon—Trivandrum Railway line to Cape Comorin

Mr. D. C. Joseph (Member, Nominated) observed that "there can be no better way of investing our surplus funds than in reproductive public works within the State" was the assurance given by the Dewan in the opening Address and there was every reason to believe that, if only he would have the generosity to remain in the State as the Prime Minister for a period of another five years, a liberal Railway policy would be assured, and the development of communications would come to be on a par with the other progressing Native States. Further, the Government had now abandoned the original idea of

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